

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)	Initials	Date
1. EO/DDA	<i>[Signature]</i>	10 AUG 1983
2.		
3. <i>File</i> <i>Travel</i>		
4. <i>Info</i>		
5.		

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

REMARKS

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DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)	Room No.—Bldg.
	Phone No.

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OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.206

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ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The Honorable Gerald P. Carmen
Administrator, General Services
Administration

SC-13

Dear Mr. Carmen:

The General Accounting Office (GAO) Fraud Task Force Hotline recently received two allegations concerning the use of free tickets received by Federal employees as a result of Government travel with certain airlines. These allegations are of particular interest in light of the current promotional campaigns being conducted by a number of U.S. carriers to help increase business. These promotions consist of free tickets earned on the basis of the number of miles flown or on the number of round trip tickets purchased regardless of the mileage.

A Comptroller General decision (B-199656, dated July 15, 1981), which is enclosed, states in part:

"It is a fundamental rule of law that a Federal employee is obligated to account for any gift, gratuity, or benefit received from private sources incident to the performance of official duty, and therefore an employee may not retain any "half-fare coupon," "bonus point," or similar item of value received from a commercial air carrier on the basis of the purchase of an airline ticket to be used for official travel."

Based on a preliminary inquiry, it has become apparent that this decision has not been widely publicized recently and thus all agencies and employees may not be aware of this policy, especially as it relates to bonus points. It would appear to be in the best interest of the Federal Government to make all agencies aware that any free tickets obtained through official Government travel are property of the Federal Government and not the individual.

We also believe it may be advantageous to pursue negotiations with the airlines to produce a system for administering credits given by the airlines allowing the Federal Government to obtain the greatest benefits.

If there are questions, please call Mr. Gary Carbone, in my staff, on 275-3653.

Sincerely yours,

(S) [Signature]

W. D. Campbell
Acting Director

Enclosure

cc: Major General John D. Bruen,
Commander, AFHC

cc: Mr. Egan, AFMD
Mr. Steinhoff, AFMD
Mr. Carbone, AFMD
Mr. Brown, GS & C
Mr. Thurman, OACG
Mr. Conner, PLRD
Mr. Bickmeyer, FPCD
Mr. Daugherty, OFH